



280009

**United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region V
POLLUTION REPORT**

Date: Thursday, August 30, 2007

From: Tom Cook, OSC

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Subject: Peoples Gas Pitney Court Station Site
3052 Pitney Court, Chicago, IL
Latitude: 41.8375
Longitude: -87.6625

POLREP No.:	6	Site #:	B5HP
Reporting Period:	08/11/07 to 08/24/07	D.O. #:	Not Applicable
Start Date:	6/18/2007	Response Authority:	CERCLA
Mob Date:	6/18/2007	Response Type:	Time-Critical
Completion Date:		NPL Status:	Non NPL
CERCLIS ID #:	ILN000510196	Incident Category:	Removal Action
RCRIS ID #:		Contract #	EP-S5-06-04

Site Description

The Pitney Court Station Site (Site) is located at 3052 Pitney Court, Chicago, Cook County, Illinois, in a mixed residential, commercial, and industrial area. The site is approximately 4.8 acres and is bordered to the northwest by Archer Avenue, to the northeast by Pitney Court and 31st Street, to the east by Benson Street, to the south by Chicago Plating Inc., a chrome plating facility, and to the west by the South Fork of the South Branch of the Chicago River.

The Site is a former manufactured gas plant (MGP) that operated as an MGP facility from approximately 1897 to 1921. The Universal Gas Company (Universal) began MGP operations at the Site in 1897. Peoples Gas leased the facility from Universal in 1907 and then purchased Universal in 1914. Production operations ceased at the Site in 1921, and the facility was dismantled in 1938. Peoples Gas sold the property in 1952 and re-purchased it in July 2005. Peoples Gas currently owns the Site which will be developed for residential use.

Numerous investigations were conducted by a number of parties from 1990 to 2000, with Peoples Gas conducting investigations from approximately 2002 to 2006. Coal tar, staining, and sheen were observed at depths below the water level in soil borings and test pits. Arsenic, lead, benzene, ethylbenzene, toluene, and polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons

(PAH) were detected at concentrations exceeding Illinois TACO Tier I screening levels in soil samples. Volatile organic compounds (VOC), semivolatile organic compounds (SVOC), metals, and cyanide were detected in groundwater samples at the site. Sediment samples collected in the South Fork of the South Branch of the Chicago River contained PAHs and other SVOCs, VOCs, PCBs, oil and grease, and metals; two of these sediment samples contained oily sheens.

Remediation activities, consisting of excavation and disposal of contaminated soils, were begun by Peoples Gas in September 2005 under the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) Site Remediation Program. Remediation was suspended temporarily in December 2005 and started up again in September 2006. The PRP contractor remediating the Site is Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Inc. (BMcD) along with their subcontractors.

Site activities by the potentially responsible party (PRP) include excavation to depths ranging from approximately 3 feet to 17 feet below ground surface (bgs). Other site activities include daily air monitoring, continuous 24-hour perimeter air monitoring and sampling, confirmation soil sampling, and water disposal.

Prior to the U.S. EPA oversight at the Site, BMcD completed excavation of impacted material in excavation in approximately 99 cells of 151 excavation cells (see BMcD map of excavation areas under "documents" on the OSC website). An Administrative Order on Consent was signed by Peoples Gas in early June 2007 prompting the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) to begin PRP oversight activities at the Site.

On June 12, 2007, a kick-off meeting was held at the 22nd Street Site between U.S. EPA, START, Peoples Gas, and BMcD, to discuss future oversight activities, documents required, and logistics for transmitting data and documents. The meeting addressed three MGP sites that U.S. EPA would be overseeing that are located within one mile of each other: 22nd Street Station, Hough Place, and Pitney Court. Note that one START member is to cover oversight of these three sites and will rotate to a different site each day. Both Hough Place and Pitney Court remediations are expected to be completed by end of 2007, while the 22nd Street Station Site remediation is expected to be completed by the end of 2008.

On June 18, 2007, U.S. EPA began PRP oversight activities at the three Peoples Gas MGP sites: Hough Place Station, Pitney Court, and 22nd Street Station. The U.S. EPA Superfund Technical and Response Team (START) contractor is performing PRP oversight during the removal activities at the sites. As part of the removal activities, START collects or observes the collection of confirmation samples of soil to confirm that the PRP cleanup objectives are being met. Samples are being collected to identify the potential presence of the following site contaminants of concern:

- ☐ BTEX;
- ☐ PAHs;
- ☐ Synthetic precipitation leaching procedure (SPLP) lead, chromium, and selenium
- ☐ 2-methynaphthalene and carbazole (SVOCs).

Cleanup objectives for the Pitney Court Station Site are IEPA TACO Tier I residential standards for soil ingestion and inhalation.

Current Activities

During the reporting period, the PRP performed excavations in cells CF141, CF140, CF127, CF139, CF125 and CF126, and conducted confirmation sampling at cells CF127 and CF141 (see BMcD map of excavation areas under "documents" on the OSC website).

A summary of the activities performed during the reporting period by BMcD at the Site are as follows:

- ☐ Transported 247 loads of soil to CID Landfill in Calumet City, Illinois
- ☐ Transported 3 loads of water to Ortek for oil/water separation and disposal
- ☐ Transported 16 loads of concrete debris to Countryside landfill for disposal
- ☐ Performed perimeter air sampling and air monitoring on a continuous basis (24-hour air samples and air monitoring is conducted around the perimeter)
- ☐ Performed health and safety air monitoring during site activities
- ☐ Backfilled completed excavation cells
- ☐ Performed street sweeping and dust control activities
- ☐ Performed daily de-watering activities in excavation area, as needed, with onsite disposal of clean water and offsite disposal of impacted water. On August 24, START personnel noted water being pumped from the CF139/CF125 excavation and overflowing into the west adjacent Chicago River. START personnel spoke to BMcD, and water was subsequently pumped to the frac tank to be held for offsite disposal.
- ☐ Collected confirmation soil samples from the floor of CF127 and CF141
- ☐ Began excavation at CF125 and CF126

On August 17, 2007, START personnel observed as BMcD collected confirmation soil samples from the floors of CF127 and CF141. Results for the samples have not yet been reported by BMcD.

On August 17, 2007, START Project Manager Lisa Graczyk came to the Pitney Court Station site to perform a quality check.

Analytical results for a previous sampling event were received and evaluated by START. On August 10, 2007, START personnel collected 1 confirmation sample of the floor of CF128, along with BMcD. The samples were analyzed for BTEX and SVOCs. Results for Area CF128 were below the PRP cleanup levels as stated in the RAP.

On July 31, 2007, START personnel observed as BMcD collected confirmation soil samples from the floors of CF101, CF102 and CF115. On August 10, 2007, START personnel observed as BMcD collected a confirmation soil sample from the floor of CF142 and CF128. The samples were analyzed for BTEX and SVOCs; CF101 was also analyzed for SPLP metals. Results for the samples have not yet been reported by BMcD.

Planned Removal Actions

Planned removal actions at the Pitney Court Station Site are as follows:

- ☐ Excavate soil per the RAP
- ☐ Transport excavated soil to CID Landfill for disposal
- ☐ De-water excavation areas as needed
- ☐ Transport water from excavation areas to disposal facility as needed
- ☐ Backfill completed excavation areas

Next Steps

The next steps to be carried out by the PRP are as follows:

- ☐ Complete excavation of cells CF125 and CF126; including disposal of soil
- ☐ Begin excavation of other cells
- ☐ De-water excavation areas if required
- ☐ Transport water from excavation areas to disposal facility if required
- ☐ Continue 24-hour perimeter air monitoring and sampling
- ☐ Continue air monitoring in work zones
- ☐ Collect confirmation samples of completed excavation cells, including CF140 and CF126
- ☐ Backfill completed excavation cells with clean fill when confirmation results are received

Key Issues

None.

Estimated Costs *

	Budgeted	Total To Date	Remaining	% Remaining
Extramural Costs				
RST/START	\$50,000.00	\$17,047.68	\$32,952.32	65.90%
Intramural Costs				
Total Site Costs	\$50,000.00	\$17,047.68	\$32,952.32	65.90%

* The above accounting of expenditures is an estimate based on figures known to the OSC at the time this report was written. The OSC does not necessarily receive specific figures on final payments made to any contractor(s). Other financial data which the OSC must rely upon may not be entirely up-to-date. The cost accounting provided in this report does not necessarily represent an exact monetary figure which the government may include in any claim for cost recovery.

www.epaosc.net/PitneyCourt